

CHRISTIAN SECRETARY.

PUBLISHED BY PHILEMON CANFIELD, CENTRAL ROW, HARTFORD, FOR THE CONNECTICUT BAPTIST CONVENTION.

"WHAT THOU SEEST, WRITE—AND SEND UNTO THE—CHURCHES."

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CONDITIONS.

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All letters on the subject of this paper, or Communications for it, should be addressed to the Editor of the Christian Secretary—POST PAID.

* * Advertisements inserted at the usual prices.

SELECTED.

WHAT IS TIME?

I ask'd an aged man, a man of cares,
Wrinkled, and curved, and white with hoary
hairs;

"Time is the warp of life," he said "O tell
The young, the fair, the gay, to weave it
well!"

I asked the ancient, venerable dead,
Sages who wrote, and warriors who have bled;
From the cold grave a hollow murmur flow'd,

"Time sowed the seed—we reap in this a-

bode."

I ask'd a dying sinner, ere the tide
Of life had left his veins—"Time!" he re-
plied;

"I've lost it! ah, the treasure!" and he died.
I asked the golden sun and silver spheres,

Those bright chronometers of days and years;

They answered: "Time is but a meteor
glare,"

And bade us, "for Eternity prepare."

I asked the Seasons, in their annual round,

Which beautify or desolate the ground;

And they replied, (no oracle more wise,) "

"Tis folly's blank, and wisdom's highest
prize!"

I asked a spirit lost; but, oh the shriek
That pierced my soul! I shudder while I
speak;

It cried, "A particle, a speck, a mite
Of endless years, duration infinite!"

Of things inanimate, my dial I
Consulted, and it made me this reply:

"Time is the season fair, of living well,
The path of glory, or the path of hell."

I asked my Bible, and methinks it said,

"Time is the present hour, the past is fled;

Live! Live-to-day! to-morrow never yet,

On any human being, rose or set."

I asked old father Time himself at last:

But in a moment he flew quickly past;

His chariot was a cloud, the voiceless wind

His noiseless studs, which left no trace be-
hind.

I asked the mighty angel, who shall stand

One foot on sea, and one on solid land,

He lifted up his hand to heaven, and swore

By Him that lives for ever,—"Time shall be
no more!"

From the Philadelphia Recorder.

CHILDREN'S FRIEND.

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN THE YEAR.

"A happy New Year to you," said James Brown, to his school fellow, Thomas Jones, as they met in their way to the Sunday School. "The same to you," said Thomas, as he took James by the hand, and gave it a hearty shake. As they jogged on their way they talked about the pleasures of Christmas and the happy opening year, with light hearts and cheerful countenances. They then spoke about their weekly subject, which was to find out texts suitable for the New Year. "Have you many texts?" said James. "I could not find a great number," replied Thomas, "it is rather a hard subject." Thus talking, they came to the school door. Mr. Freeman, their Teacher, was there before them, and praising them for their early attendance, he then marked their names in his class-book. Soon the hymn of praise arose from many a youthful voice, and then the blessing of God was asked on the First Sunday of the Year.

Mr. Freeman soon after called upon his class to give an account of their weekly subject. He began it thus: "My dear children, I like to have great attention paid to beginnings; such as the beginning of life, the beginning of a day, the beginning of a year, and especially its first Sunday. I hope you will now begin well; you will recollect that I explained the subject to you last Sunday, and I hope you have been attentive during the past week."

Each one of the boys then opened his Bible, and some of the elder lads, who were able to write, had long strips of paper on which they put down the texts they had found out.

James Brown began, by quoting Gen. xvii. 9. "Few and evil have the days of the years of my life been."

Teacher Very well. Jacob was 130 years old when he said this, so short did his life seem when he looked back upon it. It is well at the beginning of the year to think of this.

Thomas Jones. Psalm xc. 12. "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

Teacher An excellent prayer, Thomas, for all of us. You see Moses speaks of days, not years; we only have a single day given us at a time.

John Smith. 1 Cor. vii. 29. "The time is short."

Teacher We all know this truth: may God incline our hearts to improve it.

William Adams. Prov. xxvii. 1. "Boast not thyself of to-morrow, for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth."

Teacher We cannot begin the year with a better thought than this; you know two of your school-fellows have died during the last year, and they began it as well in health as any of you.

The other children then brought their texts, and I am happy to say, that they did begin the year well. I have not room to put all the texts down which they brought; but I must just tell you what Mr. Freeman said, when they had finished.—"Children, you see from the Bible how very frail we are, and that we do not know how soon we may die. Let every boy ask, 'Am I fit to die?' Those are best fit to live who are best prepared to die. I fear some of you think it will be time enough by and by. This is a sad mistake, and has ruined thousands of the young: may God teach you now to apply your hearts to wisdom. Jesus is willing to receive you; he says, 'Him that cometh unto me, I will in no wise cast out.' What a happy First Sunday of the Year would this be to me if I could hope that you, my dear boys, were this day induced to believe on Jesus Christ, and to begin a new life of holiness. 'Wilt thou not from this time, cry unto me, my Father, thou art the guide of my youth?' O may the Holy Spirit take of the things of Christ and shew them unto you, and may this year, and every future year of your lives, be spent in the service and to the glory of God.—My young reader, lift your heart to God, and say, Amen, so be it."

CALVINISM AND ARMINIANISM.

Transcribed from the Works of the Rev.

Charles Simeon, M. A.

A young minister, about three or four years after he was ordained, had an opportunity of conversing familiarly with the great and venerable leader of the Arminians in this kingdom, and wishing to improve the occasion to the uttermost, he addressed him nearly in the following words: "Sir, I understand that you are called an Arminian, and I have been sometimes called a Calvinist, and therefore I suppose we are to draw daggers. But, before I consent to begin the combat, with your permission, I will ask you a few questions; not from idle curiosity, but for real instruction."—Permission being very readily and kindly granted, the young minister proceeded to ask, "Pray, Sir, do you feel yourself a depraved creature, so depraved that you would never have thought of turning to God, if God had not first put it into your heart?" Yes, says the veteran, I do indeed. "And do you utterly despair of recommending yourself to God by any thing that you can do, and look for salvation solely through the blood and righteousness of Jesus Christ?" Yes, solely through Christ.—"But Sir, supposing you were at first saved by Christ, are you not, some how or other, to save yourself afterwards by your own works?" No, I must be saved by Christ from first to last. "Allowing then that you were first turned by the grace of God, are you not, in some way or other, to keep yourself by your own power?" No. "What, then, are you to be upheld every hour and every moment by God, as much as an infant in its mother's arms?" Yes, I have no hope but in him. "Then, Sir, with your leave I will put up my dagger again, for this is all my Calvinism; this is my election, my justification by faith, my final perseverance. It is, in substance, all that I hold, and as I hold it, and therefore, if you please, instead of searching out terms and phrases to be a ground of contention between us, we will cordially unite in those things wherein we agree."

The Arminian leader was so pleased with the conversation, that he made particular mention of it in his journal; and, notwithstanding there was never afterwards any connexion between the parties, he retained an unfeigned regard for his young inquirer to the hour of his death.

SABBATH SCHOOL CONCERT.

The Quarterly Sabbath School Concert was held last Monday evening, in Park-st. Vestry. Number of persons present, about 350. Reports were submitted from seven different schools. As most of these schools will be embraced in the Report of the Society, for the Religious and Moral instruction of the poor, and as our data are insufficient to make out an adequate statement, we shall mention but a single fact, as communicated by Mr. Caswell, from the School in the first Baptist Society. A boy lately left this school, he remarked, to visit his parents in the country. He had not been at home long before he was taken sick and died. But what was a source of unspeakable comfort, this boy gave evidence of a change of heart. From this fact Mr. C. drew the inference that Sabbath School teachers, should be encouraged to persevere in the work in which they are engaged.

The impression produced by the previous exercises, was rendered still stronger by an Address from the Rev. Mr. Wayland, on the importance of steady and untiring efforts in the cause of Sabbath Schools; characterizing two classes of teachers—the faithful and unfaithful—and showing the vast amount of good which might be effected by the former.

THE CEREMONY OF MAKING POMEGRANATES.

The reader is probably aware that the Church of Rome has bestowed the appellation of Saint on many individuals, besides the apostles and their immediate disciples. The saints thus created amount to many thousands, and their relics are shown and their pretended miracles are related in all parts of Europe. It is true that errors have occurred in creating, or, as it is called, canonizing these saints, of which many instances are recorded. One to whom many prayers were offered up in Spain, called St. Viar, and whose shrine was visited by persons afflicted in the loins, was proved by an antiquary to have been a Roman surveyor of the highways, and a heathen! The ignorant monks having mistaken an inscription found on an old stone, for the name and title of a saint! As to relics, frequent mistakes have arisen: on examining the bones of St. Pie, in Normandy, a few years since, it was discovered that the saint had two left legs. But it is painful to dwell upon such instances of fraud and credulity.

When Dr. Moore was at Rome, in 1775, a new saint, called St. Buonaventura, was added to the list. Dr. M. was present at the first part of the ceremony usual on these occasions, which is called the benediction of a saint, and has given a full account of the particulars. For several days previously, a very large picture of the proposed saint was hung up in front of St. Peter's church, and printed papers announcing the ceremony were distributed, particularly by the Franciscan Monks of whose order he had been a member.—On the day fixed for the solemnity, the Pope, with many Cardinals and other ecclesiastics, attended; a long discourse was pronounced by a Franciscan Friar, setting forth the devotions, penances, and charitable actions of the saint, and enumerating the miracles he had performed when alive, and those effected after his death, by his bones! The most remarkable among these, was his replenishing a lady's cupboard with bread, after her housekeeper had, by the saint's desire, given to the poor all the loaves she had in the family.

This orator was opposed, as usual, by another, who is called the advocate for the Devil, and objects to the miracles of the saint, his life and conduct, &c. &c.—This controversy was drawn out to a great length; but at length the claimant was admitted to the privileges of beatification, which Dr. M. says the Church of Rome considers "as entitling the saint to more distinction in heaven than before; but he has not the power of freeing souls from purgatory till he has been canonized, and therefore is not addressed in prayer till he has obtained the second honour." We may here observe, that the Pope decrees who are to be considered as saints, and thus professes to know who are in heaven.

A more recent account of a similar ceremony, is given in a letter from Rome, dated May 28, in the present year.

"On Whit Monday was beatified, in St. Peter's Church, at Rome, a Spanish Franciscan Friar, named St. Julian da St. Agostino. The church was hung with crimson damask, illuminated with wax candles, and ornamented with large paintings, representing several miracles ascri-

bed to him while living, as well as after his decease. One of them afforded considerable amusement: it represented St. Julian, who it seems was cook to his convert, in the act of taking several half-roasted birds from a spit, and restoring them to life, clothing them miraculously with feathers, and enabling them to fly away! The Te Deum was sung, and followed by a prayer to the new saint! High mass concluded the ceremony, and in the afternoon the Pope entered the church and prayed before the portrait of the new St. Julian." The writer adds, several more celebrations of the kind are expected to take place. The reader will recollect this is the year of jubilee.

We hardly know how to regard such ceremonies, they invite ridicule; but it is impossible to contemplate them without pain, when we consider that they are parts of a system by which ignorant souls are led from the Saviour, and induced to look to mortals like themselves, for pardon and salvation. Let the reader picture to himself such a scene, exhibited in ~~the earth~~, and ask himself what would be his opinion of a religion which sanctioned such proceedings.—London Tract Magazine.

The late Divie Bethune, Esq.—At the public meeting called by the Board of Managers of the House of Refuge, a few weeks since, Hiram Ketchum, Esq. of this city, on submitting a motion, remarked, "that it was not two years since in that room was collected a numerous and highly respectable portion of our fellow-citizens, convened for the purpose of deliberating on the important measure, which had brought into existence this benevolent institution. I well remember, said Mr. K. how I was delighted on that occasion. We came not together, sir, to make speeches—we came to devise means for the amelioration of the condition of the neglected and helpless children of crime. First rose a learned Professor of Columbia College, and in Addisionian style, and, with Addisionian wisdom, advocated the cause of the hapless delinquent. In another quarter of the room was heard the silver tones of the District Attorney; presenting the result of his observations and experience. Next, a respectable mechanic presented himself, and proposed a measure, which was finally adopted, and became a part of our plan. With all these, sir, I was highly delighted, and the recollection comes over my heart, cheering it like the first breath of spring. But there was another, whose speech was, in my estimation the best—because the most to the point. It was made by one, who, since that time, has, as I firmly believe, been called to his reward in another and more perfect state—I allude to the late Divie Bethune, Esq. This was a merchant's speech—a true business like speech—it was short, but it was comprehensive. "I have heard your speeches," said he, "I like the object—I like your plan—and I subscribe fifty dollars to aid in bringing it into operation." He touched the chord which vibrated in every bosom. His example was immediately followed—and before the assembly dispersed, sixteen hundred dollars were laid on the table—which has since been increased to sixteen thousand.—Advertiser.

REVIVALS.

From the Washington Register, printed at Salem, N. Y.

The following letter, from Elder Withnell, of Hartford, in this county, to the Editors, will inform our brethren abroad that the Lord is also visiting this region with his salvation.

DEAR BRETHREN,

It is now better than three years since I commenced preaching stately in Hartford, and for the most of the time, I have laboured under very unpleasant circumstances and gloomy prospects, in consequence of an unhappy difficulty, which existed in the church when I commenced the ministry. The low state of religion, and my health, which for almost two years past, has been very much impaired. Sometimes, I have concluded, that I was labouring in vain, and spending my strength for nought; that the Lord had no more for me to do in his vineyard; that my ministerial labours were about to come to a close; and that I should not live ever to witness another reformation. But the Lord has been better than my fears. There is now the appearance of a good work in this place. I have lately baptized 19, upon a profession of their faith in Christ, and there are a number more hopeful converts. The work, so far, has been gradual. There has been no appearance of heated zeal without

knowledge; no boisterous ecstasies; no confusion; but it has appeared that the still, small voice from heaven has whispered to the consciences of sinners, and communicated peace and evidences of pardon to the penitent believer. Our conference meetings have been solemn, pious, and interesting. We have heard the deep sighs of the wounded, and the praises of the redeemed. A very great number of people have generally attended our baptising seasons, and we can say we have experienced evident tokens of the Divine presence by the water side.

Respectfully Yours,
G. WITHERELL.

Hartford, Dec. 9, 1825.

Extract of a letter from Rev. John Peck to the Editor, dated Cazenovia, N. Y. December 23, 1825.

"The Lord is displaying the wonders of his love in this region. The cloud of mercy has overspread the towns of Fabius, Truxton, and Hamilton. Many precious souls have been bowed to the buried with Christ in the liquid grave. The blessed work continues; and O may it continue, and spread, till the knowledge of God shall cover the earth as the waters do the seas."—Ch. Watchman.

Dover, N. H.—We rejoice to hear that the inhabitants of this flourishing and pleasant village, are enjoying a season of refreshment from the presence of the Lord, under the labours of brother Maffit. Twenty persons, the subjects of this revival, have been received into the Methodist Society. May the Lord continue to favour Zion; and may he grant the desires of all who pray for her prosperity.—Zion Herald.

Gorham Circuit. Me.—Brother Crandall informs us that he numbers nearly twenty hopeful converts on this circuit, since the commencement of the present conference year, and is hoping for a more general harvest. May the Lord send the early and latter rain, and water this part of his vineyard with the dews of divine grace.

Extract of a letter from the Rev. A Lummus, to the Editor.

In Winchendon and Orange, in Ashburnham Circuit, we have good times. At Winchendon, about ten were converted, and joined our church last spring. Two of them were teachers in our Sabbath School, and made a profession of religion after they entered the school. The converts in this place are steadfast and exemplary. When I visited Winchendon last, seven persons tarried at the communion as spectators, publicly requested prayers. At Orange, in my last visit, I baptized three; one person in her 7th year. There is quite an attention in that place among the young people. About twelve have found a hope in Christ. One 11 years of age, and 6 or 7 from 12 to 14. In Wendell, the Baptist and Congregationalist societies have had a gracious refreshment. I have heard sixty mentioned, as the probable number of converts in that place. The Congregational Society in Westminster, has had a visitation of the Holy Spirit in the season past. A considerable number has been added to their communion. O that our merciful and prayer-hearing God, may rain righteousness in all the earth!

A. LUMMUS.

CHRISTIAN SECRETARY.

INTERESTING FROM LIBERIA.

We have been politely favoured with the following letters from the Rev. Lott Carey, missionary at Monrovia, to his friend in this city. Mr. Cary has, for a long time, acted in the treble capacity of Physician, Minister of Religion, and Teacher of the school, in all of which, his industry and zeal are highly conspicuous and highly praiseworthy. It is hoped that the Board may soon devise means to relieve him from the practice of medicine, that he may have more time to devote to missionary purposes, for which he seems eminently qualified.

Had he leisure for this object, and a little more assistance from the African Missionary Board, he would no doubt soon be instrumental in establishing a large school at Grand Cape Mount. Such an establishment would more strongly identify the interests of the natives with those of the colony, and secure their co-operation in the benevolent exertions of the society.—*Richmond Fam. Vis.*

Monrovia, June 10th, 1825.

On the 18th of April, 1825, we established a Missionary School for Native children. We began with 21; the school has increased since to 31. And as I knew it to be the great object which the Society had in view, I felt that there was no risk in furnishing them with a suit of clothes each, upon the credit of the Board. We teach from eleven in the morning, until two in the afternoon, it being as much time as I can spare at present.— You see from the list, that Grand Cape Mount will soon be a field for missionary improvement. I wrote to the King some time in May, to send five or six girls to school, and have since received an answer, informing me that the girls and their mothers were absent, and when they returned I should have them. According to their custom, they have to remain six months. I intend to write him again, and, as soon as the African Missionary Board can support a school, to get one established up there. To furnish clothing and books for the children, and support a Teacher, is what the Board would have to do. I think after one or two years such an establishment would be no expense to the Board, but that they would very gladly support a school themselves. We are told to hope great things, expect great things, and attempt great things.— You must know that it is a source of great consolation to me, to hear the word of God read by those native sons of Ham, who a few months ago were howling in the Devil's Bush.

LOTT CARY.

Monrovia, Liberia, Africa, June 15, 1825.
Dear Sir,

Nothing very interesting has taken place since I wrote you last, except that among the last emigrants who came out, there has been considerable sickness, and some deaths; the precise account of which I cannot give at this time. I do believe that the sickness of new comers hitherto, has been greatly increased in consequence of the very unfavourable season of the year in which they left America. You know that they have long been accustomed to have their systems prepared for the summer heat. But to leave in the winter, and be suddenly introduced into a warm climate, it is natural to conclude they will be sooner attacked, and that the disease generally terminates more seriously. Send them out in the fall, and I think the sickness will be very light, and in some constitutions altogether avoided.

Please to use your influence to have a physician sent out, as I must of necessity quit practising, for it occasions a greater consumption of time than I can possibly afford.

We begin now to get on with our farms and buildings tolerably well. I have a promising little crop of rice and cassada, and have planted about 180 coffee trees this week, a part of which, I think, will produce the next season, as they are now in bloom. I think sir, that in a very few years we shall send you coffee of a better quality, than you have ever seen brought into your market. We find that the trees of two species abound in great quantities on the Capes, both of the large and small green coffee, of which I will send you a specimen by the first opportunity.

The Sunday School continues to prosper. We have now on the list forty, but only about thirty three attend regularly. Two of them, George and John, from Grand Cape Mount, can read in the New Testament quite encouragingly. In addition to that, I have under way a regular day school. We began with 21, and now have on our list 31.

Yours, &c.
LOTT CARY.

PROMPT BENEFICENCE.

A letter to the editors of the Boston Christian Register, dated Brooklyn, Conn. December 10, says:—"A week ago this morning, a shop of this village, belonging to a thriving and valuable young mechanic, was destroyed by fire. It was at an early hour, and the flames had made such progress, when first discovered, that nothing in or about the building could be rescued from them. The loss of property was estimated at \$1700. Before the inhabitants who had assembled, left the

place, a subscription paper was circulated for the relief of the sufferer. Five hundred dollars were immediately raised. This sum was increased to more than seven hundred before the close of the day. Early in the afternoon several loads of timber were brought for the erection of another shop. The Monday following, between 12 and 20 men commenced the gratuitous labour of rebuilding. An equal number have been eagerly at work each day since—and this afternoon there has been raised the frame of a building two stories high, forty-six feet long, and twenty-four feet wide, on the spot, where a week ago was a heap of smoking ruins."

EMIGRATION TO LIBERIA.

We understand that the students of Yale College have generously contributed 200 volumes of books, for the use of the Colony at Liberia.

A vessel is about to sail for the Colony, from Norfolk, Va. with the frames of several large buildings intended to be erected there, for the reception of re-captured Africans, at the expense of the national government. By the latest accounts, about 60 coloured emigrants had entered their names as passengers.

Another vessel is to sail from this port about the 28th or 30th of the present month, for the same destination. With something like 60 coloured emigrants, as thus far engaged, a young gentleman of the Baptist profession, who has passed through a course of theological study, expects to go out in the capacity of missionary. We f—Mr. C. H. L. for the purpose of making the necessary preparations. The articles most needful to the emigrating company are planks, boards, nails and provisions; and great service would be rendered to the cause, by committing any, or all of them, in such quantities as may be convenient, to the care of Deac. John C. Proctor, No. 8, Dock-Square, previous to the time of embarkation.—*Rec. and Tel.*

The Grand Climacteric.—How often is a fine fanciful theory overturned the moment you apply it to the touchstone of fact! The climax or climacterics of human life, calculated by the magic or mystical numbers of 3, 7, and 9, as producing critical periods of danger and death, I have never found supported or countenanced, by the bills of mortality in any part of the world. A number of tables now before me, give me more deaths between 50 and 60, than between 60 and 70, including the grand climacteric of 7 times 9, so called; and no indication can be derived from them, of any relation between the ages of the deceased and the numbers mentioned above, or any others whatever. It is singular that such a relic of ancient astrology should still be countenanced, while every actual test proves it to be as substantial as the imaginary tenth wave of popular superstition. H.

The Treasurer of the Massachusetts Baptist Education Society, acknowledges the receipt of FIFTY dollars from the Rev. Bela Jacobs, presented by ladies of the Cambridge Baptist Church and Society, to constitute him a Trustee for life of the Education Society.

LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

By an extract from the thirty first report of this Society, contained in the Christian Watchman, it appears that twenty-six Auxiliary societies have been formed within the year. That "there is an increase of enlightened zeal, of pecuniary liberality, and of diligent effort. The amount of receipts into the Treasury the last year is £40,719, 1s. 6d.—\$180,792, 33 cents."

CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The report of this Society states the amount received into the Treasury the last year, at forty-five thousand pounds—\$199,800.

The following Summary exhibits a view of the proceedings of this Society. In the nine missions of the Society, there are forty-five stations, with which are connected two hundred and ninety-six schools.

The Stations and Schools are occupied by four hundred and forty labourers: of these, 119 are Europeans, including a few Females born of British Parents in India; and 321 were born in the respective countries, chiefly, where they are employed. The number of schools under the Society is fourteen thousand and ninety; of whom 10,457 are boys, 2,957 Girls, and 676 Youtas and Adults. In connection with the principal Missions, printing presses are established; and are coming, in some places into very active and beneficial operation.

COMMUNICATED.

Mr. Editor: having been of late both taxed and annoyed, by the reception of pamphlets by Mail; you are hereby requested to say to a certain religious teacher of your city, who has been in the habit of publishing polemical pamphlets for gratuitous distribution, that he is requested by many of the Baptist ministers of Con-

nnecticut, to desist from sending them his pamphlets, unless he pays the postage on them, or endorses upon them the name of the work, so that those to whom they are directed, can at least have the privilege of refusing to pay for a thing they wish not to have. In behalf of myself and OTHERS.

CHRISTIAN SECRETARY.

HARTFORD, MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 1826.

As the second volume of the Christian Secretary is nearly completed, the Editor takes this opportunity to present his thanks to its patrons generally, and to those who act as Agents for the paper; and to request those who are yet in arrears with their payments, to forward the same, (Post paid) as soon as may be, and also the names, and places of abode of new subscribers, who are wishing to commence at the beginning of the New Year. Owing to the number of Banks broken, and others whose bills are uncurrent, we trust the patrons of the Secretary will save us from loss on bills, remitted in payment for the paper.

Extract from a Memoir of the Rev. John Chamberlain, published in the London Baptist Magazine for November, received at this office.

"I thank my God for parents who, though poor, taught me to read the Bible, and took me to hear the word of God preached. Ah! how much I owe to the care of my dear mother!"

Ye thousands of parents, who, neither teach

your children the fear of the Lord either by

your example, or precept, nor take them to

"hear the word of God preached," read the

above effusion of pious gratitude from a ser-

vant of God, whose dust now sleeps and min-

gles with that of Thomas, Ward, Biss, Mar-

don, Coleman, Brundson, and others, who

slumber in death upon the shores of Asia, to

which they had gone to preach the gospel of

the grace of God, and ask yourselves wheth-

er you have any desire to have such an honor-

able record to your memory impressed upon

the heart of a child of yours, converted to

God by your parental faithfulness? Have

you no wish that, when you shall have finished

your earthly course, your children who sur-

vive you, may rise up and thus call you bles-

sed? What a weight must it add to your glo-

ry and joy in heaven, there to meet such chil-

dren, trained and nurtured by your diligent

efforts and prayers for the service of God

on earth, and for joy in his presence in

heaven? If you desire these things, O rise

from your dreadful negligence of divine

things! O neglect no longer the public wor-

ship of God if it be within your reach; if not,

deceive yourselves no longer with the pre-

tence, that you cannot obtain or support

preaching; search for such a blessing, and

bring all your children within the sound of

the gospel stately. You are to meet them

soon in another world, and at the Bar of God;

consider now, what a wretched apology you

must then attempt, should the blood of your

children be found upon your souls.—Even

now, should your neglect of the Lord's day

and his worship, be the means of their be-

coming drunkards and guilty of crime, for

which they should fall into disgrace, or the

hands of public justice, what could you reply

to them, should they reproach you as the in-

strumental cause of their guilt and suffering?

If you could not endure this, how much less

could you endure the gnawings of the worm

that never dies? Be diligent ye mothers,

fear God, and teach your children to fear

him; pray much for them, and the blessing of

God will attend you, and filial blessings shall

be heaped upon your memory.

The emancipation of the provinces of South America from the tyranny of Spain, under which they have groaned for centuries, has very justly called forth the gratulations and joyful sympathies, of the millions of freemen in these United States. The general diffusion of knowledge, and of civil and religious freedom enjoyed under our wise constitution of civil government, produced deep regret, that so valuable a portion of the world as South America, with its numerous inhabitants, should be locked up in everlasting ignorance, bigotry, and slavery; and the march of the human mind restrained in every attempt to rise to an elevated state of improvement, and scientific attainment. Hence, the most unfeigned joy has been excited by the bursting of those chains, which bound the southern section of our vast continent to the Spanish throne. Nevertheless, a sort of present regret, and gloomy foreboding of the future, has always possessed the mind, when it was perceived by their several and successive declarations of Independence, that they understood no better what was for their own civil interests, or what pertained to the rights of men, than to incorporate with their national government, the exclusive enjoyment of what they and others miscall, the Holy Roman Catholic Religion. The jesuitical craft and supreme selfishness of the Catholic Priesthood are to a republic by whom they are exclusively fostered, a sure presage of collision, fraud, encroachment, and usurpation of ecclesiastical and civil power, to the greatest extent possibly attainable. With the certain knowledge of these facts, freemen at the north, have feared for those who would be free in the

south. The provinces of Charcas, La Paz, and Potosi, which in August last, declared themselves to be a free, sovereign, and independent state, pledge themselves to protect life, liberty, equality, and property, and to maintain unalterably the Holy Roman Catholic Religion. This pledge presents a curious specimen of contradiction in terms. Already is Mexico engaged in a contest of claims with his unholiness the Pope, for the supremacy of the Mexican Church; and the arguments by which the papal claims are opposed, must convince the people of Mexico, that no church can have exclusive claims to government favour. The mind is much relieved upon this subject by the fact, that light upon this important department of the rights of man has already been taught the government of Buenos Ayres, by a few years experience, and intercourse with older free nations; and, with a magnanimity becoming a nation of free-men, their government has at once overleaped their superstitious attachment to the Romish Church, and placed religion where every government should place it upon the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets; Jesus Christ being the chief corner stone. The example of Buenos Ayres is a happy indication, that all the free states of the immense southern hemisphere, will soon follow her steps, and reap a rich reward.

Having made arrangements by which the DAILY NATIONAL JOURNAL, the Government paper, printed at Washington, is now received at this office, we shall be able during the present session of Congress, to give our readers the earliest information of the proceedings of that body, in a condensed summary; and also, whatever else may appear most interesting in the proceedings of Government.

The Hon. Elisha Phelps, Esq. has obligingly sent us a copy of the "Letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, enclosing his Annual Report on the state and finances of the United States," for which he has our thanks.

In number 43 of this paper, was inserted an article from a Philadelphia paper, concerning the importation of foreign potatoes; in which the Philadelphian pronounced it a shame to the American Farmers, that they did not raise potatoes enough for home consumption. This imputation some of our New-England farmers dislike, and that justly; for they have always been able to supply to the full their southern neighbours, till this year; in which as much land has been devoted to the culture of potatoes, as at any previous year, but the crop has failed to a great extent, owing to the unfavourableness of the season, for which no man is to blame. We think therefore, that instead of censuring the farmers, the Philadelphia editor should have been grateful for the ready means, by which our wants may be supplied when necessary.

General Intelligence.

CONGRESSIONAL.

The following representation of the proceedings of Congress, being all that is contained concerning that body in the National Journal of Jan. 2, is, perhaps, the best that can be laid before our readers this week. Very many petitions are daily presented and referred, reports are made pro and con, resolutions are offered and accepted, or laid upon the table, and calls are made upon the Executive, and heads of departments, for information of various kinds—the bare detail of which, would more than fill our paper, and afford very little decisive information to the reader. One fact which we will name, may show the correctness of the latter remark; it is this, during three days only, 68 Petitions were presented to Congress, besides many resolutions offered, &c. It shall be our endeavour to communicate the pendency, and completion of all measures of general interest or importance, as early as may be.

From the National Journal.

DOMESTIC.

Hitherto Congress has been principally engaged in forwarding bills of comparatively minor importance, or in digesting the materials of future discussion. It is well known to the generality of our readers, that a great deal of labour is performed by the various Committees, during the weeks of the session, which terminate with the holidays: and immediately after this period has elapsed, the effects of the industry of the Committees begin to show themselves, in the important reports which are daily made on the floors of the two houses. The holidays may now be regarded as having reached their close; and a notice now stands upon record of an important discussion for Thursday next, on the resolution offered by Mr. M'DUFFIE, relative to an amendment of the Constitution, as regards the election of President and Vice-President, so as to provide for the election being made hereafter on the district system. An amendment has been laid on the table, by Mr. Cook, which he proposes to move, and by which the rights of the states are equalised, so that the smaller States shall still retain the same relative influence in the election, which they have hitherto exercised under the provisions of the Constitution. It is far from being improba-

ble that the discussion of this subject will afford to us, and to our readers, (as far as our ability to report will enable us to second the ability, which dictates and delivers the argument on the subject,) a pretty correct insight into the character of the present Congress. We throw this out, however, merely as a matter of conjecture, as we have no information which can lead us to form any decisive opinions, either as to the members who will speak on the subject, the time likely to be occupied in its discussion, or the probable result.

Other measures of importance will succeed each other rapidly; as we have every reason, from the evidences of past industry, to expect that much business will be transacted during the present session.

It will be seen, that the only one of the resolutions reported for the purpose of rendering the Hall of Representatives more convenient for the purposes of speaking and hearing, which has been adopted, is that which provides for the erection of a partition in the rear of the Speaker's chair; by which the sound will be prevented from wasting itself in

CHRISTIAN SECRETARY.

of the head horses of the stage, and almost instantly caused his death. The gig at the same time overset, and threw the lady and gentleman on the ground with such violence, that the former was considerably injured, and the latter so seriously hurt that his life is despaired of.—*Statesman.*

The brig Caspian, arrived at Holmes' Hole from Calcutta, was boarded on the 18th ult. in lat. 00° 50' S. long. 27° 30' W. by the Brazilian line of battle ship Pedro Primero, Commodore Jewett, and was treated politely. She was from Ceara, with 1500 passengers on board, who had deserted that place in consequence of a famine, of which the inhabitants were dying in great numbers in the province.

The English Barque Mentor, from the Isle of France to Batavia, having 41 persons on board, upset in the night, and all perished, except a Mr. Dumestie, or Fristemie, an American, and two seamen, who reached Moco in the boat.

MELANCHOLY SHIPWRECK.

Barnstable, Dec. 21—We are under the painful necessity of recording the following melancholy disaster, which occurred on the coast during the last gale. The schooner Huntress, of Nantucket, Capt. Homer, was driven ashore, as is supposed, on Tuesday week, at Scorton Beach, about eight miles west of our harbor, where the vessel remained undiscovered till the Thursday afternoon following, and was then found by Capt. Fuller, of Sandwich. Both masts and bowsprit were gone by the deck, and, with the sails, which were much torn, were alongside the vessel. She had almost broken apart, near the main hatches. The bodies of Capt. Homer, Mr. George Hillard, of this town, and one other, name unknown, were found forward of the windlass, frozen to death; they had probably taken shelter there after the vessel had parted, and were waiting for the ebbing of the tide, for the purpose of reaching the shore.



The brig Helen, Patterson, from Gibraltar for New York, with a cargo of wine and fruit, has been fallen in with, a complete wreck, and one man, the only survivor, taken therewith. His name is James Pollock, a native of Scotland. He informs that the crew were nine in number, besides one passenger, H. S. Newcomb, first Lieutenant of the United States frigate Constitution, all of whom were drowned. Pollock was on the wreck fifteen hours.

Lieutenant Newcomb was a son of the late Hon. Daniel Newcomb, of Keene, N. H. and a graduate of Dartmouth College. He had been in a consumption for several years, and was probably on his return to his wife, his children, and his friends, in a very weak condition.

What madness is it for a man to starve himself to enrich his heir, and to turn a friend into an enemy—for his joy at your death will be proportioned to what you leave him.

Proposals are issued by Isaac G. Hutton, of Washington City, for a new periodical work, to be entitled, *The Columbian Monthly Magazine of Foreign and Domestic Literature*, selected from Standard Periodical works of Europe and America.

A curious phenomenon was observed a short time since in Winchester, in England. A shower of rain fell for several minutes—the moon and stars shining bright all the time, and not a cloud to be seen in the heavens.

COTTON.

The planters of cotton in Virginia have done exceedingly well. We have no estimate of the quantity gathered in the state during the present season, but it is a large one. An acre of land will yield 600 lbs. seed cotton, or 150 lbs. picked, after paying toll at the gins. At 12 cents per lb. the product is 18 dollars per acre; a great deal more than the land would supply if cultivated with wheat, corn, &c. One planter has made 40,000 lbs. of picked cotton. This valuable article may do wonders for the lower counties of Virginia and revive them.—*Niles' Register.*

OHIO.

The emigration to this state is still very great. Of the 10,000 "settlers" who arrived at Quebec, during the present year, it is probable that Ohio, Michigan, &c., have received more than one-half; and there are also many emigrants from the old states. No doubt, the next census will show, that Ohio contains a million of free persons. It may even go beyond that number.—*Ib.*

WESTERN VIRGINIA.

That part of this state which lies west of the mountains, is very fine country—the climate is agreeable and the land good.—The people are industrious, and, of course, live plentifully; and, blessed by the absence of many slaves, are hardy and prosperous. Many of them are of German descent from Pennsylvania and Maryland, and large and lofty barns are frequently met with. The land is hilly but productive, and the valleys are luxuriant. There are many very respectable iron works in this section of Virginia, and an extensive one belonging to Col. Taylor, is said to have yielded a profit of 20,000 dollars in one year. It furnishes coal, iron, lead and salt in great abundance, and is heavily timbered.—*Ib.*

TENNESSEE.

The population of Nashville is now estimated at 6000. This town is growing very rapidly, and its business is proportionably increasing. It is well located to become a large city, and it probably will.—*Ib.*

BURMESE CARRIAGE.

The Burmese Imperial State Carriage, which was captured at an early period of the present sanguinary Indian war, has reached England, and is preparing for a public exhibition at the Egyptian Hall, London. It is, without exception, one of the most splendid works of art that has ever been produced, presenting an entire blaze of gold, silver, and precious stones. Of the latter, the number must amount to many thousands, comprehending diamonds, rubies, sapphires, white and blue emeralds, amethysts, garnets, topazes, cats' eyes, chrysolites, &c. The carving is of a very superior description; the form and construction of the vehicle extraordinary; and the general taste displayed throughout the whole design is at once so grand and imposing, yet at the same time so chaste and refined, as to defy all rivalry even from European workmanship. The warlike power and resources of this surprising people are at present exciting astonishment and attention. This new object attests the fact, that, for taste in design and skill in the execution of works of art, their talents have been no less hidden and unknown to us. The carriage stands between twenty and thirty feet in height, and is drawn by Elephants.—*Ackermann's Repository.*

When a Jew, who was a famous Dutch printer, brought to Constantinople printing presses, &c. to introduce the art of printing in that city, the Vizier caused him to be hanged, declaring that it would be a great cruelty that one man should enrich himself, by taking the bread of eleven thousand scribes, who gained their living by their pen.—*M. B. Herald.*

In Spring township, Pa. a Cabin took fire, and one of its inmates, a man who was too drunk to remove himself, was roasted alive by the flames.

The shawls of Cashmere supply the whole civilized world. It is said they are manufactured at 16,000 looms, each of which gives employment to two or three men. The work is so inconceivably tedious, by which the fine patterns are produced, that not more than a quarter of an inch is completed in a whole day. It is not unusual to find a loom occupied with one shawl for an entire year. The wool of which they are made is brought from Tibet, consisting of the inside coat or down of sheep peculiar to that mountainous region. The wool is at first of a grey colour, but being bleached it becomes a beautiful white, and takes the various dyes readily when spun. It is a curious fact, that the borders are attached to the shawls after fabrication, so deceptively, that no eye can detect the place of junction.—

The valley of Cashmere has been celebrated from the most early times for its beauty.—Nothing can exceed its romantic advantages from nature. In the centre of a plain near the lake of Cashmere, studded with little isles, were the gardens and pavilions of the mogul Emperor, where the nobles made annual visits to feast on the charms of the lovely valley, and to choose wives from among the beautiful girls of Cashmere; whose delicacy of complexion and symmetry of form were only surpassed by the elegant turn of their minds, the liveliness of their dispositions, and the sweetness of their tempers.

Nothing is more absurd than jealousy that the National Government will encroach on the rights of the States, or has any disposition so to do. There is more reason to fear, that it is not sufficiently selfish for its own support.—Those who administer it, have no peculiar permanent interest in it. They are, for a year or two, in the service of the nation, and all the rest of their lives citizens of a State. If they abridge the rights of the States, they would abridge their own rights. Mr. Monroe was governor of Virginia—then elected President of the United States—and is now nominated for Governor of Virginia again—Can he be more for the Nation than for his State?—*Pal.*

Breach of Promise.—A case was recently tried in Goshen, N. Y. between Dorothy Ackerson, plaintiff, and William Ellis, defendant, which resulted in a verdict in favor of the lady, of two thousand dollars. The families on both sides were respectable. Ellis had courted Miss Ackerson a long time, and at length, under promise of marriage, robbed her of her virtue.

Baltimore, Dec. 8.

From Rio de Janeiro.—By the schooner Blucher, Capt. Smith, arrived at this port on Monday night from Rio, we have advices to the 14th of November. Capt. S. Reports that a war between Buenos Ayres and Brazil was daily expected to take place, and preparations were making at Rio accordingly. The vessels of war were all ordered to be ready for sea by the 14th. Some disturbances had taken place at Pernambuco, between a German regiment and the Pernambucans—the latter, it is added, were much cut up; the two colonels of the regiment had been sent to Rio for trial. A report prevailed currently at Rio, that Lord Cochrane was to return from England in the frigate Piranga, when she was refitted. The Blucher brings despatches for government.

The intelligence published last week of the defeat of the Brazilian troops by the patriots of the Bande Oriental, had reached Rio, and it was added, that the Brazilian soldiers had gone over to the side of the patriots.

By an arrival at Charleston from Matanzas, bringing Havana papers, of the 7th

instant, it is understood that the troops which the Mexican brig of war, Victoria, brought to that port were the remnant of the garrison of the Castle of St. Juan de Uloa, upwards of 300 having died, and many remaining sick at Vera Cruz. A new Captain General had succeeded Viyes, and it was reported that the British government had guaranteed to Spain the peace of Cuba.

Extracts from Foreign Papers.

[From Capt. Lyon's private journal.]

Voracity of Wolves.—The wolves had now (says Captain L.) grown so bold as to come along side, and on this night they broke into a snow house, in which a couple of newly purchased Eskimau dogs were confined, and carried them off, but not without some difficulty, for in the daylight we found even the ceiling of the huts sprinkled with blood and hair. When the alarm was given, and the wolves were fired at, one of them was observed carrying a dead dog in his mouth, clear of the ground, at a canton, notwithstanding the animal was of his own weight. He dropped his prey however, on being pursued, and I joined two men in bringing back the dead dog, during which the whole pack of twelve wolves eyed us very eagerly, and we could just discern them through the gloom, sliding along parallel to us, we walked to the ship. Before morning they tore a quantity of canvass off the observatory and devoured it.

Early in the morning of the 7th, the wolves came in a body and carried away the carcass of a dog which had been moored as a decoy, on the ice alongside, with strong ropes, even before a musket could be got ready for them: and when they had dragged their prize a short distance from the ship a most furious battle was fought for it. For several nights they had broken and straightened baited hooks and chains set for them by the Fury, and when it is known that the hooks were made of the iron ramrods of muskets, some idea may be formed of the strength of jaw requisite to break them.

In the evening a wolf was taken in a trap set by the Fury, and three balls were fired through him while imprisoned. His hind legs were then tied, and he was dragged out tail foremost, by a rope; but this he instantly bit through with ease, springing at Mr. Richards, who was then nearest to him, and seizing him by the knee; being thrown off, the animal flew at his arm, but with great presence of mind Mr. Richards grasped his throat and flung him back, at the same time retreating a pace or two when the wolf quickly made his escape, having done no other damage than tearing Mr. Richards clothes and slightly wounding his arm. It was very fortunate that the requisite quantity of winter clothing formed a good defence, and that the person attacked was a powerful young man, the effects otherwise might have been more serious. Mr. Nias struck the animal once or twice with a cutlass, but without doing any injury.

On the morning of the 8th the same wolf was discovered round the S. E. point, frozen quite stiff. A raven shewed the position of the carcass, by hovering over it, after having picked out one of his eyes.

On the night of the 11th the wolf was caught in a trap set by Mr. Griffiths, and after being to all appearance killed, was in that state dragged on board. The eyes, however, as it lay on the deck, were observed to winkle whenever any object was placed near them. Some precautions were therefore considered necessary, and the legs being tied, the animal was hoisted up with his head downwards. He then, to our surprise, made a vigorous spring at those near him, and afterwards repeatedly turned himself upwards, so as to reach the rope by which he was suspended, endeavouring to gnaw it asunder, and making angry snaps at the persons who prevented him. Several heavy blows were struck on the back of his neck, and a bayonet was put through him, yet above a quarter of an hour elapsed before he died.

Contest with a Shark.—We have been made acquainted with the following surprising instance of the resolute struggle which a youth of 13, successfully sustained against the all devouring jaws of this marine monster.

The circumstances occurred last Sunday evening. The hero of our tale, accompanied by two other lads of eleven and twelve years of age, went to bathe outside the Fort at Port Royal; they had been diving and swimming about some time—two of them, W. Maude, a free mulatto boy, and John, a negro slave to Wm. Robt. Waugh, Esq. were landing on the beach, when Wm. Low, a free mustee, called to return and ride the waves, a sport of which they were fond, and which consists in mounting the waves, which carry them rapidly to the shore. He had scarcely uttered the request, when he felt himself seized by the small of the leg, and imagining it to be one of his companions, called out, "John, none of your fun;" but, looking round at the same moment, beheld his foot gone; he called to his companions, but the shark again caught him above the knee, when he struggled to disengage himself, and bravely fought the monster with his fists till his companions reached him, when they lent their aid to tear him from the voracious animal, with the loss of his limb. In this state they conveyed him ashore, where they laid him on the beach. A servant of Mr. Waugh, named Cromwell, coming up at the moment, took him in his arms and carried him to a house in Port Royal, to which Dr. Laing, of the Naval Hospital, and other medical gentlemen immediately repaired to give assistance, and amputated the thigh a little above the bite of the shark. Just as he was laid on a bed, some of his companions went in to see him, when he pointed to the stump, saying, "You see what I am come to," and fainted; after which the operation was performed, and the reader, we are persuaded, will be happy to hear that this courageous youth is in a fair way of recovery. We believe this is only the second instance known where any human being ever preserved his life in a personal struggle with a shark. The first was that of Sir Brook Watson at the Havanna, who also lost a leg in the contest.

Jamaica Royal Gazette Aug. 30.

A Chinese ship, navigated by Chinese seamen, has recently arrived at Antwerp, and crowds of curious persons from all parts of the Netherlands daily flock on board to admire the dexterity with which these eaters of rice manage their chopsticks.

A Vessel is preparing at Norfolk, which is engaged to take out the frames, &c. of some large buildings intended to be erected at Liberia, Africa, by the Government of the United States, for the reception of captured Africans. We learn that about sixty Emigrants have entered their names as passengers, some of whom are already in Norfolk.

place, and its powerful and salutary effects have already been witnessed to a cheering extent. "Thirty have been buried in baptism, and others will soon follow the Redeemer in this truly significant rite."—*Star.*

From the Christian Watchman.

Ordination.—On Wednesday last, the Rev. JAMES D. KNOWLES was ordained to the Pastoral care of the 2d Baptist Church and Society in this city. The exercises on the occasion were as follows, viz. Introductory Prayer, by Rev. Bela Jacobs, of Cambridgeport; Sermon, by the Rev. Prof. Chase, of the Theological Institution at Newton, from Matt. xvi. 26; Ordaining Prayer, by Rev. Joseph Grafton, of Newton; Charge, by Rev. Stephen Gano, of Providence; Right Hand of Fellowship, by Rev. Francis Wayland, Jr. of the 1st Baptist Church in Boston; Concluding Prayer, by Rev. Henry Jackson, of Charlestown; Benediction, as usual, by the candidate.

In noticing this event, we may certainly be justified in indulging ourselves in expressions of congratulation with the church, so recently deprived of the pastoral care of that excellent and eminently useful servant of Christ, the late Rev. Dr. BALDWIN. So early a supply of this important vacancy, the promptitude and unanimity in both the Church and Society, in relation to the choice of their new Pastor, and the pleasing hopes that are entertained of his usefulness among them, are circumstances particularly worthy of attention, and we must consider them as strikingly intimating the special interposition of the Great Head of the Church.

MARRIED.

By the Rev. Mr. Grosvenor, Mr. Daniel Artree Lee, of this city, to Miss Desdemona Adams, of West-Springfield; on Wednesday evening last, by the Rev. A. Bolles, Mr. John Stanwood, of this city, to Miss Emily Graham, of Windsor.

At Haddam, Mr. James Clark, 2d, to Miss Loona T. Baily.

At Saybrook, Rev. William Jarvis, to Miss Elizabeth Hart, daughter of Maj. Richard W. Hart.

At New-Haven, Major Bela T. Peck, to Miss Maria Atwater.

At Augusta, Geo. Mr. Henry Brace, of this city, to Miss Sarah Ann Fox.

At New-York, by the Rev. Charles G. Sommers, Mr. John Matthews, to Miss Elizabeth Brown; on the 19th ult. Mr. Edward Davison, of Boston, Mass. to Miss Elmeline Leland, of that place; Mr. John L. D. Mathias, of Rochester, to Miss Nancy Dunnell; Mr. Archibald Gracie, Jun. to Elizabeth Davidson, daughter of the late Angus Bethune, Esq. of Charleston, S. C.

In Boston, Mr. Simeon Sever, of Braintree, to Miss Maria Bagley, of Boston; Mr. Stephen Vialle, Jr. to Miss Martha Loring Gould.

OBITUARY.

In this city, Mr. John Watson, aged 67; Mr. Chester Andrus, aged 44; on Saturday last, Joseph Rogers, Esq. aged 72. Mr. Rogers was a native of Newport, R. I. but for the last twenty years was a resident of this place. He was a worthy and respectable citizen, and a warm friend and generous contributor to the various benevolent institutions of the day. At the establishment of the Connecticut Bible Society, he was appointed its Treasurer, and faithfully discharged the duties of that office until his death.

At Groton, Mr. Frederick Ayer, aged 33.

At Plainfield, Miss Louisa K. Cone aged 20.

At Stamford, Mr. Nelson Webb, aged 19, son of Mr. William Webb.

At Camden, N. Y. Widow Mary Munson, aged 85, formerly of Wallingford, in this state.

At New-York, Mr. John Hewitt, a native of England, aged 88.

Richard Bess, a native of Bath, fell from the mast head, upon the deck of the schr. Gen. Brewer, Gale, of Salem, from Maranham, about the 10th of October last, and lived but 36 hours.

In Philadelphia, Miss Mary Cope, consort of Mr. Thomas P. Cope, of the Society of Friends. Feeling unwell, she took from a knife case a paper which she supposed to be magnesia, and a servant mixed a spoonful of it with milk which she took. Her daughter seeing her mother look ill, examined the paper, and found it labelled arsenic. Every effort was made to relieve her, but without effect, and in a few hours she died.

In Charleston, Rev. Hooper Cumming.—Lost at Sea, on his passage from Gibraltar, on leave of absence, Lieut. Henry S. Newcomb, first of the Constitution frigate. A widow and several children, though in circumstances of affluence, are left to bemoan an irreparable loss. He was a native of Keene, N. H. and the annals of the last war bear ample testimony to his bravery and devotion to his country.

At Newton, Ms. on the 18th inst. Mrs. Elizabeth Hicks, aged 99 years and five months! She obtained a hope in Christ but three or four years since.

At Nollore, in Ceylon, on the 26th of April. Mrs. Knight, wife of the Rev. Joseph Knight, Mrs. K. was sister of the Rev. Mr. Bardwell, formerly American Missionary at Bombay, and went to Ceylon as the wife of the late Rev. James Richards.

NOTICE.

The Hon. Court of Probate for the district of Hartford, has directed the subscriber, Administratrix on the estate of Jeremiah Crocker, late of Hartford, deceased, represented insolvent, to give notice to all persons interested in the same, to appear before the court of Probate, to be held on the 12th day of January next, at 11 o'clock A. M. to be heard relative to the appointment of Commissioners on said estate.

ELIZABETH CROCKER,
Hartford, Dec. 19th, 1825.
Adm'r.

Wanted,

AN APPRENTICE
To the Printing Business, about 14 years old, who

CHRISTIAN SECRETARY.

POETRY.

From the American Baptist Magazine.
FALLS OF NIAGARA.

A SKETCH.

The sweep majestic of the river's brow,
Which, far above, extends from shore to shore—
(It glows in memory's magic mirror now.)
Heaven's bright blue arch rising behind and o'er—
The Lake-sprung torrents—as with ceaseless roar,
Over the everlasting rocks they roll,
Forever to the dizzy leap before—
All rush at once upon the startled soul,
At the first transient glance your eye throws o'er the whole.

But sight is mingled at the heart with sound—
The loud, the deafening thunder of the fall,
Which seems at first all feeling to confound,
The brain to madden and the breast appal,
And spread annihilation over all!—
The dazzling whiteness of the sheeted foam,
Which to the eye seems like a snow built wall,
On which is reared a bright cerulean dome,
That poets well might take for fancy's airy mind.

Of soft and ductile youth, with every scene,
Of light and shade—now swelling unconfined,
In matchless beauty with resplendent sheen,
Now bursting—leaving but the black abyss between;—

The dark and dripping cliffs which overheat,
Rise like the war-built towers of ancient time,
Breathing defiance, and inspiring dread,
Which echo back with emphasis sublime,
The cataract's awful sounds, in measur'd chime,
Rolling along the deep and distant pass,
Until at length the bloodstain'd heights they climb,
Where swell'd the roar of battle—when alas!

Our country's friends and foes fell in one mingled mass;—

And the still darker torrent at your feet,
Whose greenwreath'd floods boil up from the abyss,
To whose unfathom'd depths, in one broad sheet,
They thundering fell—whose tides with horrid hiss,
Like venom'd serpents vast, do seem, I wis,
Writhing in pain, and madly rushing by
Towards far Ontario's bed:—All—all, of this,
Must have struck on the heart—the ear, the eye,
To wake the burning soul of its sublimity.

O! I have thought—and thought did well beseech
A scene so fraught with wondrous majesty,
If with such wonders his creation tempts,
What must the glory of the Author be!
With what deep reverence and humility,
Ought we to bow before his mighty hand!
Lord of Creation and Eternity!
Shall human pride not quail at his command?
The thunder of his power, O! who can understand?

LETTERS FROM THE WEST.

NO. I.

From the Christian Watchman.

ILLINOIS AND MISSOURI.

"Voice from the West,"—"Claims of the West,"—"Domestic Missions,"—"Western Churches,"—"Something must be done,"—"A remedy,"—"An appeal to Christians,"—"National Missionary Society," &c. &c. &c.

Under these various heads, and signed by "Y. S."—"Swartz,"—"A. W. T."—"A. W. B."—"A Layman,"—"Candidate," &c. repeated communications for many months past have appeared in one of the religious papers, published in your city. These publications are intended, undoubtedly, by the pious and zealous authors to awaken feelings, and arouse up the christian community in New England, to more extensive and systematic measures in sending out missionaries to the Western States. But of all the vast region, that lies beyond the Alleghany ridge, Illinois and Missouri seem to claim the undivided attention of these writers. No individual, residing in these extensive and rapidly populating regions, would rejoice more sincerely, to see more labourers enter this harvest, or bid welcome with purer joy the arrival of more missionaries, possessing the proper principles, than the writer of these remarks. But if he is not mistaken, there are many things, stated in the publications alluded to, which are more likely to defeat the object of these writers, than to give efficient aid to the cause they espouse. It cannot have been forgotten, that in two or three injudicious publications, professing to set forth the deplorable state of our country as to the means of religious instruction and the great want of qualified preachers of the gospel, not many years since, the cause of Education Societies, and a systematic course of study for the ministry, received more real injury than ever was felt from all its avowed opponents. When facts came to light, serious, well-disposed persons, in multitudes, were disgusted with the subject, as it had been presented, and withheld their patronage, which otherwise they might have bestowed. Such will be the effect from publications of the character of those, to which I have alluded, in respect to western missions. It is hoped, that the writers of such pieces will receive with the kindness, with which they are proffered, any hints I may drop on the subject. A

residence for many years in the western country, has given me some knowledge of the manners and character of the community, and of the sensations and feelings usually produced upon reading the imperfect representations and injudicious reports of missionaries, that usually find their way back to these remote settlements; and no small injury has been done to the missionary cause by these means. Prejudices have been awakened, passions aroused, and sectional feelings excited, that ought forever to have slumbered, or, if these effects have not followed, satire and ridicule have been indulged at the expense of the poor missionary. It is likely, that most of the communications, upon which I propose to remark, were written by young men, totally unacquainted with the world, probably Theological Students, who in their zeal for the welfare of the human race, and the fervour of their imagination, often have wandered into the "wilds of the west," until all the "moral desolations" and gloomy forebodings, with which their writings abound, came "rushing thick upon their fancies." But should they ever visit the "ends of the earth" in reality, and tarry long enough to form an intimate acquaintance with the population generally, they will see things in a very different light. Even those, who have paid us a transient visit, and hardly formed an acquaintance with a few settlements, go back with a very scanty stock of real intelligence as to our morals and religion. If they pass through our towns, (usually a cluster of half a dozen log houses,) and see no "tall spire pointing to the skies"—and hear no sound of the "church going bell"—the waste is noted in their journals as an irrefragable proof of "moral desolation," and a demonstration, that piety, intelligence and virtue have no residence here.

The following extracts are selected from a mass of exceptionable matter in the communications, which has given rise to these remarks:

"In Indiana, there are not more than half a dozen ministers of our denomination; and in all Michigan, Illinois, Missouri, Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, and Arkansas, few or none, except now and then a missionary." Now suppose all this true (which by the way the writer knows nothing about,) does it prove the country to be overspread with "moral desolations"? Is it indispensable, that these States should be populated with ministers of this writer's "denomination," before the people can be completely instructed in morals, religion, or literature? But the above quotation appears in the form of an extract from the letter of some missionary. Did he explore every part of these six States and two territories named, so as to judge from personal observation, whether they were completely supplied with the gospel or not? Did he gain his knowledge from those, who had explored this vast region, or did he get the alarming intelligence from a former report of the "American Education Society."

"A writer from Ohio observes" (says the author of the same communication) "that in a circuit of 1300 miles, three-fourths of the places, through which he passed were destitute of settled Clergyman, while a majority were able to defray the expense of pastoral labours." Nothing is here said about "our denomination," but it is reasonable to suppose the other fourth was supplied with pastors of the writer's cast. It may be requisite to enquire if the remainder were destitute of a preached Gospel? Were there no Methodist circuit or local preachers, no Cumberland Presbyterians, or New Lights in all that great field? Were there no Sunday Schools, no Bible Societies, no Prayer-meetings, no Methodist Class, or Baptist Covenant Meetings, or any other means of grace in that district? It seems at least there was one "house of God" in that desolate field and probably a "pastor" to occupy it, for the writer relates that "a hog was butchered on the Sabbath in sight of it," which its influence did not prevent, and which offence, or similar ones, has been committed probably in New England. That "Deism prevails extensively amongst the opulent and influential classes of community," in that part of Ohio may be true. And is there not species of Christianity in New England, which is rated by some writers in some of the eastern papers, of but little more value than Deism, that does not proceed from the want of preachers, and eminently literary ones, too? Are there not Deists and even Atheists to be found amongst the "opulent and influential classes of the community" in Boston? If these principles do not prevail as "extensively" as in the state of Ohio, it is owing to circumstances, which have never existed in the early settlements of the west. And what has put down Deism and a variety of errors, that formerly prevailed over many sections of the west, where now Christianity triumphs, and the deserts rejoice and blossom as the rose?" Why, a class of pious, unlettered, farmer-looking preachers, the most of which have been converted and called to the ministry on the field of their labours, from the plough, or the shop, chiefly Baptists and Methodists, who are plain and simple in their manners, easy to be un-

derstood by the common class of hearers, scriptural in their doctrine, and zealous and persevering in their labours. This class of preachers may be ungrammatical in their language, sometimes low and uncouth in their figures and comparisons; but they are eminently experimental and practical in their discourses, who preach much to the conscience and the heart. I would not add one word as a drawback upon the advantages of an education to the minister of the gospel; but it must be acknowledged by all those who have any extensive acquaintance with the progress of religion in our country, that the above mentioned class of preachers have been the means of the conversion of more Deists, than all the liberally educated preachers of the Gospel, that America has produced, although their labours appear to be very much overlooked, in some of the publications that have been made.

A WESTERN BAPTIST.

Nov. 1, 1825.

From the Columbian Star.

State of religion in the Louisianian Association.

Franklin, (St. Martin's,) Attakapas, Louisiana, October 17, 1825.

By order of the Louisiana Baptist Association, I send you a short statement of the affairs of our Zion in this quarter.

Our Association, for the present year, convened on the Saturday before the fourth Lord's-day in September, and our spirits were mutually cheered by the prompt manner in which the several churches were represented. Delegates from seven of eight churches promptly attending. At our annual meeting in 1824, we thought the dissolution of this, which is the only Association in the State, inevitable, having at that time opened the Association with but three delegates, from among whom we were obliged to choose a moderator and clerk. Then, indeed, we had well nigh hanged our harps upon the willows." But our God, rich in mercy, I trust enabled us to look to Him, for our souls were refreshed, and I have since heard a silver-headed minister, whose locks have been bedewed by the frosts of three score and six winters, say that he had reason to bless God for the privileges of that season. Thus did it please the Lord to ordain strength out of weakness. I believe that each could say with Peter, "It is good to be here!" We have one more church added to our number this year, and one young minister; and it is with feelings, better conceived than expressed, that I state that the Louisiana Baptist Association has at length agreed to enter heartily into measures for the promotion of domestic missions. It is truly the day of small things with us. But, although we cannot rise and walk at once in the majesty and strength of the riper years of manhood, I rejoice that we are willing to put forth our little strength, and extend our arms towards the object near our hearts; remembering that the corn does not spring from the earth at once ready for the harvest.—For the nature, &c. of our mission, I must refer you to our minutes, which I hope to forward to you shortly. Our table, for the present year, will exhibit nine churches; eleven ministers, of whom three are licentiates, and one hundred and fifty-two members. The greater part of one of our churches moved in company to the province of Texas.

We hope for better days here. Our congregations grow, and become daily more orderly; this we look upon as portending good. Oh! that the Lord would cause "this desert to rejoice, and this wilderness to blossom as the rose." One circumstance favourable to the spread of religion in this State is, that although professors are few, yet there is one if not more professors of our faith, who have removed from other States. These, in several instances, have proved to be highly useful.

B. C. R.

CITY OF ANTIOPH.

The last number of the Missionary Herald, furnishes a continuation of the Journal of Mr. King, embracing the events of his journey from Damascus to Aleppo, the last year. From it we have selected the more interesting parts, which we arrange under separate heads below. Our first extract relates to the present condition of the city of Antioch, which place Mr. K. reached on the 27th September.

Left Jissier Hudeed about seven, and in four hours we came to the interesting city where the disciples were first called Christians. See Acts xi. 26. We entered by the gate of St. Paul, on the north, and pursued our way, for about half an hour, through a delightful avenue, in the midst of trees and gardens, which now cover the spot, where once stood the great and splendid city of Antioch. Nearly on the south-east, rises a lofty rugged mountain, on the side and top of which, are still to be seen remains of the ancient wall, with which it was surrounded. Westward flows the beautiful river Orontes, or Aseah, as it is now called, beyond which at the distance of a mile and a half, or two miles, rise mountains, less rugged than those on the east, and presenting a verdant appearance.

After half an hour's ride, we entered

the present city, called Antaka, which I suppose, occupies the southern site of the ancient city, and contains, perhaps, four or five thousand inhabitants.

Girius Deeb, an Arab with whom we took lodgings, and who is Agent of the English and French Consuls at Aleppo, estimated the number of houses at four or five thousand; but I think this estimate quite too large.

The first thing which struck me on approaching the city, was the ruins of the terrible earthquake of 1822, which seems to have been quite as great here, as at any place I have seen. Walls, mosques, and houses, were thrown down in every direction, and though some repairs have been made, yet the streets are filled with heaps of ruins. A part of these ruins may be the effect of earthquakes, which happened a long time since; for Antioch has, I believe, been shaken several times to its foundations.

Of the present population, there are twenty or thirty families of Jews, one hundred of Greek Christians, and four or five Armenians. The rest are Mussulmans. The Christians have no church, except a little grotto, or hole in a rock, in the side of the mountain, lying west of the city, where they assemble to worship.

Such is the situation of that place, once the seat of Grecian pride, and of Roman grandeur: once accounted the third city in the world for splendour and population! And such is the situation of the church, founded by the Apostles, and called the eye of the eastern churches!

A SABBATH IN SYRIA.

In eight hours and a half we arrived at Shekhoon, where we found encamped a large caravan from Aleppo. We encamped near them on the declivity of a hill, close by the village, and on the east side of it.

Our situation here was quite unpleasant. There was neither tree, nor rock, to shade us. The Shekh of the caravan had procured for us, two or three days after leaving Damascus, a small tent, which was little better than a large umbrella, and was so high from the ground that we were exposed to the wind and dust on all sides. The wind, which was almost as hot as the wind of the desert, was very high, and whirled about the sand and dust in all directions.

Our eyes were weak, and the rays of the sun were reflected from all quarters, and in two or three minutes we and our baggage were covered with dust.

In this situation we sat down to spend the rest of the day. But finding it almost impossible to remain thus, we got some sheets, and, after much trouble, succeeded in fastening them to one side of the tent, so as to keep out a little of the dust, and shield us from the hot wind.

After this we set down to our dinner, which consisted of bread and leben, but before we had time to eat, our dishes were covered with dust. It was the Sabbath, and I could not but think of the dear people in my native land. How many of them, thought I, are now going up to the house of God with joy, while I sit here like an exile. But it is for Christ, and I will rejoice in it. How many of them sit down quietly, this day, to a rich repast, while we sit in the sand, scorched by the sun, weakened by the burning winds, and have nothing to eat but a little sour milk and bread, which has been dried and hardened by the heat of eight or ten days. But still I am happy, and would not change places with them, unless it were for a little time, in order to give them an idea of my situation.

Shekhoon is a mean, dirty village, containing perhaps a thousand inhabitants, all Mussulmans.

INCIDENT.

While pursuing our journey, we had much conversation with Hadjee Ahmed, a Moslem from Damascus, about his religion, and that of the English. He seemed much pleased at hearing that we have no images in our worship, and that we do not pray to saints.

He says, that Constantinople is to be taken by the Christians, in 1240 of the Hegira, that they are to advance to Damascus as far as Hanah, where they will be stopped by one, who shall arise in Damascus, which he said would be Esra (Jesus).

19. Arose at midnight, and at half past twelve set out on our journey. At half past nine we came to a village called Nebeck, where is a considerable number of Syrian Christians. We did not enter the village, but encamped at a little distance from it, near the tomb of Shekh, close by the side of which flows a large, clear, cool stream of water. Around the tomb is a small enclosure, with a tree standing by it, whose branches hang over the wall, and over the stream, and form a most delightful shade for eight or ten persons.

This place was preoccupied by Turks; but as the rays of the sun poured down upon us with intense heat, we asked permission to enter the enclosure of the tomb, that we might rest under the shade of the tree. Some of the Turks, who heard this, exclaimed, "God forbid, that a Christian should enter here;" and one I understood to say, "I will give my

blood, before that shall take place."

Turning to those who exclaimed thus, I said, "Are you Mussulmans? Do you think you are so much better than all other men? Then let your goodness appear by your kindness to strangers. Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and Lot, were kind to strangers; if you would be like them, treat the stranger kindly."

Most of them seemed to feel the force of my reproof, and remained silent. The master of the Rofelec, (caravan) who was a Mussulman, said that we should go in; and immediately sent for the key of the enclosure, open it, and bid us enter. After some hesitation, I entered, though not without fear that some fanatic Turk might be tempted to do us harm.

In the afternoon, the Pacha of Tripoli arrived with a train of about two hundred persons, who were going to meet the pilgrims on their return from Mecca, in order to supply them with provisions. The Pacha pitched his tent near the tomb, from which we thought best to remove.

RELIGIOUS CONVERSATION.

EXTRACT.

Mussulman. "Why do you not become a Moslem, and embrace the true faith?"

Mr. K. "Give me reasons, give me evidence that your faith is the true faith, and I will turn Mussulman. I am not a Christian because my father was one. I have searched for myself. Should I see that my father was wrong, I ought to renounce his religion, as Abraham did, (relating to them what is said of him in the Koran,) and so ought you to do with regard to your religion."

On the way we had much conversation with Hadjee Ahmed, on religious subjects. On showing him that it was his duty to search for himself, and not believe simply because his fathers believed, he replied, "but how can I? We have no books, and there is no opportunity." He listened to what I said with much apparent interest, and I endeavoured to explain to him fully, the way of salvation through the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

From the Christian Register.

Extract from my note-book.—A Traveller. Sunday, Dec. 1825. Attended the Methodist A. M. Service in Bloomfield Lane. "Oh, that they were wise, that they understood this; that they would consider their latter end. The preacher did not read us a dissertation upon christian doctrine or christian morals. But as if God were, indeed, judge, and the hearers a jury; he argued the case of their eternal interest before them with energy and truth. Would to God our classical sermonizers knew as well how to rivet the attention of an audience, as these Methodists do."

The time will come when that preacher will be neglected who does not plead for God with his people, as if he had a deep personal interest in the issue.—Charity forbids me to doubt that ministers feel such an interest—but do they manifest it?—If this honorable and essentially requisite interest is felt, why smother it? Why curb and reduce and conceal it?—Why not cultivate and cherish it, enlarge and exalt it, until it animates the whole man, makes every word speak, every ear hear, and every heart understand? Then would many a sleeper be roused from his golden dreams, and many a wandering heart be turned unto God.

Liberia.—We understand, that recent intelligence has been received from the Colony at Liberia, and that it is of a very interesting character. Mr. Lot Carey it appears is with his usual zeal and ability, rendering himself very useful. He has recently opened a missionary school for the benefit of the children of the colonists and others, which promises much success. We shall probably be enabled soon to give this communication to our readers.—Ib.

Shock.—The schr. Huntress, Homer, of and for this port, from Belfast, Mc. was stranded on Barnstable Beach, during the severe weather of Tuesday last. She was not discovered until Thursday, when she was found to be a complete wreck, and that all hands had perished! Three dead bodies were found upon her deck, one of which was recognized as that of Capt. Homer. Her crew consisted of the following: Benjamin Homer, of Barnstable, master; Rogers, of Nantucket, mate; Benj Lovell, of Sandwich; Geo. Hillard, of Barnstable; and boy by the name of Andrew, of Nantucket.—Nantucket In.

Accident.—Mr. Thomas Keen, a respectable inhabitant of South Bloomfield, New-Jersey, was thrown from his wagon, on Wednesday last, within a few rods of his door by his horses taking fright and running.—His skull was fractured by the fall, and he died in about twelve hours, leaving an afflicted wife, and seven children to mourn his untimely end. We understand Mr. K. was a man of piety—He was between 40 and 50 years of age.

Bells.—The Cleveland (Ohio) Herald states that a patent cast steel Triangular Bell, designed for churches, is exhibited in that place, and that its clear agreeable sound, together with other advantages it possesses over bells in common use induce a belief that it is an important improvement.